

SUNDAY 11th January 2026



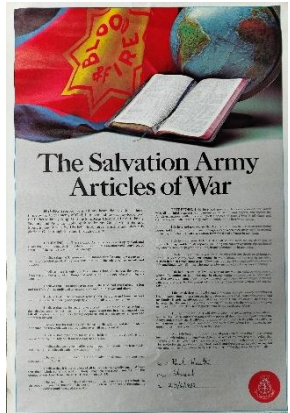
**Local ...
Lively ...
Loving**

Covenant Sunday

Just under 44 years ago, I signed my 'Articles of War' to become a senior soldier within the Salvation Army. In doing so, I made a life-long covenant with the Lord to serve him faithfully. To my shame, the document has remained in a drawer ever since – protected from anything that could damage it, but basically ignored.

In pulling it out for the adjoining photograph today, it gave me a chance to re-read the promises I had made all those years ago.

Although I thought I knew what it said, I found myself surprised by how much I had forgotten through the passage of time. How can I be sure to keep a covenant that I can't properly remember?



Today, we all have a chance to renew our promises to the Lord, but perhaps you also need to make sure you actually know what those promises were in the first place. You might be surprised as well!

**'I will, by His help, love, serve, worship and obey this glorious God
through time and through eternity.'**

Paul Heath

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People

We were sad to learn that Olive Matthews was promoted to glory and our thoughts and prayers are with Gary and his wider family. As details are arranged, we will let you know.

Olive's passing comes at a time when we are mourning the loss of several corps members along with people attached to our fellowship. Currently funerals have been arranged for:

- Bill Milsom - whose funeral will be on Wednesday, 4th February, 11.15am at Westerleigh Crematorium. Please continue to remember Freda, Elaine and Mark in your prayers.
- Alan Chillcott (Ann Gerrish's father) - whose funeral is planned for Friday, 30th January, 1pm at Westerleigh Crematorium. Please remember Ann and her family in your prayers.
- Glynn Elcoat - a celebration of Glynn's life is planned for Saturday 24th January in Bolton. Our thoughts are with Rachael, Jenni & Georgie and their respective families.

You will be pleased to learn that Brian U is now home, but that Pat, at the time of writing, is in hospital - please uphold both Brian and Pat in prayer, along with those in our fellowship who are poorly or living with long-term health conditions.

Flowers

We would like to thank Mike Dyer and the family for the flowers today, placed in memory of Elsie.

Please Pray

Jess is attending another Terrain weekend next week, 16th-18th January so please remember her in your prayers.

The Week Ahead

TODAY – Sunday 11th January: *Covenant Sunday*

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| 10am | All Age Worship
'Break Ground, Bring Hope' |
| 11:30am-12:15pm | Children's Church and Youth |

Tuesday 13th January:

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|---------------|---|
| 9:30am-2:30pm | Employment Plus |
| 10am – 2pm | Open Doors <i>inc. homemade soup at 12.30pm</i> |
| 10am-11am | Fitness Club |
| 11am-12noon | Extra Slice Group (leader: Kelvin) <i>at the hall</i> |
| From 6:30pm | YP Band Practice and Singing Company Practice |
| 8pm | Songster Practice |

Wednesday 14th January:

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| 9:30am-11am | Tots on the Hill |
| 3:30pm-4:30pm | Extra Slice Group (leader: Gerry) <i>online</i> |
| 8pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group (leader: Linda) <i>at Kelvin & Linda's</i> |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group (leader: Beth) <i>online</i> |

Thursday 15th January:

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| 10am-12noon | Open Doors |
| 11:15am | Thursday Church |
| 12:30pm | Lunch Club - <i>booking essential</i> |
| 6:45pm | Extra Slice Group <i>at the hall</i> |
| 8pm | Senior Band Practice |
| 8pm-9pm | Extra Slice Group (leader: Bethany) <i>at Bev & Jon's</i> |
| 8:15pm-9:15pm | Extra Slice Group (leaders: Ian & Rachel) <i>online</i> |



Friday 16th January:

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| 7:30am-12noon | Slimming World Groups |
| 10am-12noon | Open Doors |
| 2pm | Cleaning Hall |

Next Weekend

Saturday 17th January:

10am-12noon Coffee Morning – *hosted by Claire & Michael Blowers*



Sunday 18th January: *Unity Sunday*

10am All Age Worship
11:30am-12:15pm Children's Church and Youth
5:30pm Pulse Youth event *at Staple Hill*



Dates for the Diary

Here are some other dates that are coming up soon:

Monday 19 th January	Mission Council Meeting
Friday 23 rd – Sunday 25 th January	Growing Young Leaders
Sunday 25 th January	Messy Church
Monday 28 th January	CAMEO
Sunday 1 st February	Morning worship led by Paul Heath
Friday 13 th February – Sunday 6 th February	Territorial Mission Conference
Saturday 14 th February	Coffee Morning
Sunday 15 th February	Pulse Youth Event at Bristol South

